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TO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 230966

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, CD, FR, EAID, MASS

SUBJECT:AMBASSADOR DAVIS' MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER
KAMOUGUE

REF: NDJAMENA 2338 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: DURING CORDIAL MEETING IN HIS NEW YORK HOTEL
SUITE CHAD'S FOREIGN MINISTER REQUESTED AMERICAN MILITARY
AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WHILE PRESENTING CABLE FROM PRESI-
DENT MALLOUM CLAIMING THAT CHAD'S PRESENT DIFFICULTIES WITH
FRANCE RESULT FROM CHAD'S GRANT OF A PETROLEUM CONCESSION
TO CONTINENTAL OIL. MINISTER REPEATEDLY BROUGHT UP MME.
CLAUSTRE AFFAIRCOMPLAINING OF FRENCH VIOLATION CHADIAN
SOVEREIGNTY. END SUMMARY

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1. AMBASSADOR DAVIS CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER KAMOUGUE

AT HIS NEW YORK HOTEL SEPTEMBER 23. FOREIGN MINISTER GAVE DAVIS A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT MALLOUM FOR PRESIDENT FORD (LETTER IS A BRIEF OUTLINE OF REASONS WHY MILITARY SEIZED POWER IN APRIL). KAMOUGUE ALSO GAVE DAVIS A LETTER FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER WHICH WHEN OPENED AFTER MEETING WAS FOUND TO BE TEXT OF CABLE FROM MALLOUM TO KAMOUGUE INSTRUCTING HIM TO REQUEST A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY TO EXPLAIN THAT FRANCE IS CREATING DIFFICULTIES IN CHAD BE-

CAUSE GOC AWARDED A PETROLEUM EXPLORATION PERMIT TO THE AMERICAN FIRM CONTINENTAL OIL. MALLOUM'S CABLE FURTHER INSTRUCTED KAMOUGUE TO TELL THE SECRETARY CHAD CONSEQUENTLY IS COUNTING ON HIS SUPPORT FOR ITS DEFENSE AND TO ACCELERATE THE EXPLOITATION OF CHAD'S RICHES. (BOTH MALLOUM MESSAGES BEING CABLED SEPTEL.)

2. IN OPENING DISCUSSION KAMOUGUE CHARACTERIZED CHAD'S RELATIONS WITH THE US AS GOOD. HE SAID NEW GOVERNMENT WANTS GOOD RELATIONS WITH ALL COUNTRIES WHICH RESPECT CHAD'S SOVEREIGNTY. AS ONE OF THE WORLD'S POOREST COUNTRIES, CHAD MUST ORIENT ITS FOREIGN POLICY TOWARD THOSE WHO WILL HELP CHAD EMERGE FROM UNDERDEVELOPMENT. THE US, HE SAID, HAS A PROMINENT PLACE IN CHAD'S FOREIGN POLICY BUT CHAD WOULD LIKE A MORE VISIBLE US PRESENCE. KAMOUGUE THEN OUTLINED CHADIAN POSITION ON MADAM CLAUSTRE AFFAIR EMPHASIZING THAT FRANCE IS VIOLATING CHADIAN SOVEREIGNTY.

3. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND, KAMOUGUE SAID MALLOUM HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO REQUEST US ASSISTANCE TRAINING CHADIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL (HE LATER STATED FIRST PRIORITY WOULD BE THE TRAINING OF MILITARY PILOTS AND NAVIGATORS) AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT. KAMOUGUE SAID THIS ASSISTANCE WOULD BE PAID FOR BY GOC, IF USG NOT PREPARED TO FURNISH OUT OF ITS OWN GENEROSITY.

4. TURNING TO ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, KAMOUGUE ACKNOWLEDGED

CURRENT US HELP IN AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, AND SOCIAL AREAS, AND HE EXPRESSED SPECIAL GRATITUDE FOR SAHEL
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DROUGHT ASSISTANCE. HE THEN SAID GOC WOULD LIKE US HELP IN FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL AREAS: A) FERTILIZER FACTORY; B) AID TO FLOOD VICTIMS IN N'DJAMENA; C) ASSISTANCE WITH SEWAGE AND WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS IN N'DJAMENA; D) ROAD CONSTRUCTION. HE ALSO REQUESTED DEPARTMENT'S HELP PERSUADING EXIM TO FINANCE TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK.

5. IN PRIVATE SECTOR, KAMOUGUE SAID GOC WOULD LIKE TO

SEE A US AIRLINE SERVICING CHAD. HE ALSO SAID MALLOUM HAD INSTRUCTED HIM TO ASK THE DEPARTMENT TO PUT PRESSURE ON CONOCO TO BEGIN EXPLOITATION OF PETROLEUM US COMPANY HAS DISCOVERED. KAMOUGUE IDENTIFIED OTHER AREAS IN WHICH GOC SEEKS PRIVATE US INVESTMENT AS MINERAL EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT, CONSTRUCTION OF RAILROAD, OIL REFINERY, SUPERMARKET, AND TEXTILE PLANT.

6. KAMOUGUE THEN HANDED DAVIS COPY OF FRANCOIS SCHLOSSER ARTICLE IN SEPT. 22 ISSUE "LE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR" WHICH

ALLEGES THAT FRENCH HAVE HIDDEN FROM GOC INFORMATION OBTAINED BY BRGM ON MINERAL DEPOSITS IN CHAD AND THAT CHAD'S AWARD OF CONOCO CONCESSION, AND SEPARATE URANIUM EXPLOITATION CONCESSION ALLEGEDLY NEAR SIGNATURE AT TIME OF APRIL COUP, ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALLEGED FRENCH MACHINATIONS IN CHAD.

7. AFTER REASSURING MINISTER OF USG'S DESIRE FOR GOOD RELATIONS WITH GOC, DAVIS SAID CURRENT DIFFICULTIES BETWEEN CHAD AND FRANCE, BOTH OF WHICH ARE GOOD FRIENDS OF US, IS A MATTER OF SADNESS TO USG AND THAT USG HOPES THESE WILL BE RESOLVED. HE DESCRIBED US AS SYMPATHETIC OBSERVER. TURNING TO ASSISTANCE REQUESTS, DAVIS SAID THESE AND WHATEVER MIGHT BE CONTAINED IN UNOPENED LETTERS TO PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY WOULD RECEIVE CAREFUL ATTENTION OF USG. HE SAID USG WANTS TO COORDINATE CLOSELY WITH GOC ITS POST-DROUGHT ASSISTANCE ROLE. HE EXPLAINED THAT WHILE DEPARTMENT WOULD BE PLEASED TO DISCUSS WITH CONOCO ITS ACTIVITIES IN CHAD, USG COULD NOT PRESSURE OR OBLIGE AN AMERICAN FIRM TO MAKE AN INVESTMENT DECISION. HE ASSURED KAMOUGUE THAT USG WOULD CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE INVESTMENT BY AMERICAN FIRMS IN CHAD. HE CONFIDENTIAL

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PLEDGED THAT DEPARTMENT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN FACILITATING CONSIDERATION BY EXIM OF REQUEST FOR FINANCING TELE-COMMUNICATIONS. ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE, HE NOTED CONGRESS IS MORE INTERESTED IN PROVIDING AID FOR DEVELOPMENT THAN IN FINANCING MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO LDCS.

8. KAMOUGUE SAID HE APPRECIATED THAT DAVIS' RESPONSE MUST BE INTERIM BUT GOC HOPED TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE FROM USG FOR ASSISTANCE IN AREAS DESCRIBED. NOTING THAT HE WILL BE VISITING WASHINGTON (WHERE LUNCHEON HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR MULCAHY SCHEDULED FOR SEPT. 26) KAMOUGUE ASKED IF HE COULD BE GIVEN SOME MORE DEFINITIVE REACTION TO TAKE BACK TO N'DJAMENA. DAVIS MADE NO COMMITMENT.

9. MEETING CONCLUDED WITH RERUN AND ELABORATION OF

EARLIER DISCUSSION ON CLAUSTRE AFFAIR DURING WHICH
KAMOUGUE MADE EVIDENT THE FEELING OF HUMILIATION, FRUS-
TRATION AND ANGER GOF'S ACTIONS HAVE PROVOKED AMONG
CHADIANS.

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